



Northeast CAPT News Update

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VOICES FROM THE FIELD

Corporate Alliance for Drug Education (CADE) Research Exemplifies Value of Evaluation as a Planning Tool

Helping Youth Pursue Excellence (HYPE) is a 5-year prevention research project being carried out in the Philadelphia public schools by the Corporate Alliance for Drug Education (CADE), through a grant from SAMHSA.

The purpose of Project HYPE is to determine whether regular classroom instruction by trained prevention specialists over a 5-year period starting in 4th grade will help inner-city students reduce future substance abuse and perform better in school. Using the nationally-recognized *Here's Looking at You (HLAY)* curriculum, CADE prevention specialists deliver weekly classroom presentations to classes throughout the school year in 4th through 8th grades. As an added enhancement, prevention specialists are available to meet individually and in small groups with at-risk students selected by participating schools.

Prior to implementation, CADE staff worked closely with evaluation consultants. This allowed the evaluators to: (1) determine the specific data needed to measure project success, (2) ascertain the availability of such data, (3) develop and pretest survey instruments, (4)

identify data collection points, and (5) select appropriate analytical methods – all before the start of the project. Taken together, these steps enabled CADE to have confidence in Project HYPE's approach and the credibility of its results.

Program participants include all fourth graders enrolled at seven K-8 schools during the spring of 2002. Originally, Project HYPE's envisioned a study design comprising 4 treatment and 3 comparison schools. However, the unexpected addition of DARE in 2 treatment and 2 comparison schools necessitated a change to a 4-group design: HYPE-only, HYPE/DARE, DARE only, and Comparison. Results are measured annually using pre- and post-tests and achievement and attendance data provided by the Philadelphia School District. Project HYPE is now completing its fourth year.

Results after three years are extremely positive:

- Compared to the other three groups, HYPE-only students showed significant increases in drug knowledge. (See Table 1). HYPE-only students were the most likely to have improved their drug knowledge scores from 4th to 6th grade.

Table 1. Comparison Groups by Change in Drug Knowledge Score

Group	Change in Drug Knowledge Score		
	Decreased	Same	Increased
HYPE-only	24 23.5%	15 14.7%	63 61.8%
No Treatment	23 32.9%	12 17.1%	35 50.0%
DARE-only	41 48.2%	8 9.4%	36 42.4%
HYPE/DARE	31 29.8%	17 16.3%	56 53.8%

- Over two-thirds of HYPE-only students (68.6%) improved their “attitudes toward drug use” score, a proportion clearly exceeding any other group. HYPE-only students, overall, also reported greater improvement in their attitudes toward drug use than students in the other groups.
- Substance use decreased more among HYPE-only students than among students in any of the other groups. As shown in Table 2 below, most students showed no change in use, mainly because they reported no use in 4th or 6th grade. However, students in the HYPE/DARE group actually increased their use by 31%. (Comparison group differences approach but do not achieve statistical significance.)

Table 2. Comparison Groups by Change in Overall Drug Use

Group	Change in Overall Drug Use		
	Decreased	Same	Increased
HYPE-only	14 14.4%	62 63.9%	21 21.6%
No Treatment	4 6.1%	47 71.2%	15 22.7%
DARE-only	5 6.2%	60 74.1%	16 19.8%
HYPE/DARE	7 6.8%	64 62.1%	32 31.1%

For more information on CADE or Project HYPE, contact Project Director Ruth DuBois at (610) 949-7464 (duboiscaade@aol.com), or the Evaluation Consultant, Joy Quill, at (410) 267-5464 or joyquill@aol.com.

RESEARCH UPDATE

Boston Area Tallies Highest Rates of Marijuana Use in the U.S.

A recent SAMHSA study reveals the Boston area as the capital of marijuana use in the United States. Twelve percent of local youth and adults reported using marijuana within the previous 30 days, compared with the state average of 9 percent and national average of 5 percent. Public health officials note that the Boston area has a high concentration of college-age individuals, who are at the peak ages (18 to 25 years) for marijuana use. In addition, some residents and observers say the region is known for relatively liberal attitudes toward marijuana

use. Some critics of the study say such attitudes may have also skewed the results in favor of more marijuana use. The study shows that five of the 15 top areas for marijuana use nationwide are in Massachusetts.

(www.boston.com/globe)

Kadesha M. Thomas 6/17/05

NIAAA Newsletter –Latest Issue Now Online

The latest edition of the NIAAA Newsletter is now online at:

www.niaaa.nih.gov/publications/Newsletter/summer2005/Newsletter_Number7.htm

Featured in this issue:

- * NIAAA Budget Request Goes to Congress
- * Alcohol Research Center Directors Meet
- * Dr. Li Represents NIH Director on Visit to Taiwan's NHRI
- * Dr. Linda Spear to Receive 2005 Keller Award
- * Clinical Trials: Medical Journals Will Now Require Public Registration
- * Nursing Experts Discuss Developing an Alcohol Education Curriculum for Nurses
- * New Publications --
 - Journal Covers Screening and Brief Intervention
 - New Spanish brochure for women

For the printer-ready PDF, go to:

www.niaaa.nih.gov/publications/Newsletter/summer2005/Newsletter_Number7.pdf

Visitors also can access the Newsletter from the "What's New" section of the NIAAA home page at:

www.niaaa.nih.gov/

Adult Antisocial Syndromes Common Among Substance Abusers

Data from a recent epidemiologic survey of more than 43,000 U.S. adults show that antisocial syndromes—marked by little concern for the rights of others and violations of age-appropriate societal rules—are more common among people with substance abuse disorders than those without these disorders.

The study, conducted by researchers from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and National Institute

on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), National Institutes of Health, appears in the June 2005 issue of *The Journal of Clinical Psychiatry*.

"This is the first time in which we see that virtually every single drug abuse disorder is associated with an antisocial personality disorder," says Dr. Wilson Compton, Director of NIDA's Division of Epidemiology, Services, and Prevention Research. "We also observed stronger links between the antisocial syndromes and specific substance abuse or addiction in women compared to men, and drug addiction was more likely than abuse to be linked with these psychiatric conditions."

For more information, go to:

www.nih.gov/news/pr/jun2005/nida-22.htm

or contact:

Blair Gately at NIDA at (301) 443-6245
Ann Bradley at NIAAA at (301) 443-3860

SAMHSA's Office of Applied Studies (OAS) Released the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) Report: Alcohol Use and Delinquent Behaviors Among Youths

The NSDUH report links alcohol use by youths to delinquent behaviors, such as stealing, illicit drug use, and problems in school. According to the report, in 2003 almost 8.6 million (34.3 percent) youths aged 12 to 17 had used alcohol in the past year and almost 9 million (36.1 percent) had engaged in at least one delinquent behavior. Young people who reported heavy alcohol use in the past month were the most likely to have participated in any delinquent behavior.

To access this report online, go to:

oas.samhsa.gov/2k5/alcDelinquent/alcDelinquent.cfm

For access state-specific data, go to:

oas.samhsa.gov/2k3State/drugPerState.htm

To compare states according to prevalence of various substances, go to:

oas.samhsa.gov/2k3State/EstimatesTables.htm

Immigrant Labor Force Booming: Mass. Report Foresees a Skills Gap

The immigrant population in Massachusetts, already at a 50-year high at the end of the last century, is continuing to swell despite slowing of the state's economy since 2000 and tightened entry requirements for foreigners since the September 11 attacks. A report produced by the Massachusetts Institute for a New Commonwealth and Northeastern University's Center for Labor Market Studies warns of serious challenges as new immigrants—many with poor English ability and low skill levels—seek to thrive in the state's increasingly complex job market.

Among its findings:

- Today, 1 in 7 Massachusetts residents was born in another country. In Boston, that number is 1 in 4. In Chelsea, where the concentration of immigrants is highest, 1 in 3 residents is foreign born.
- The foreign-born share of the labor force has doubled since 1980, to 17 percent.
- Between 2000 and 2003, Brazil sent the most immigrants to Massachusetts; 1 out of 5 new arrivals was from that country.
- Immigrants are clustered in the state's cities.
- More than one-third of all adult immigrants in Massachusetts either lack a high school diploma or have poor English skills.

Although the growth of the state's foreign-born population was well-established after the 2000 Census, the new report offers a comprehensive picture of the origins, destinations, education levels, and English skills of immigrants in Massachusetts, and the dramatic demographic change brought by their arrival.

www.boston.com/globe

Yvonne Abraham 6/19/05

NEW RESOURCES

CASA Releases New Report: Family Matters: Substance Abuse and the American Family

Parents who use illegal drugs, abuse alcohol and use tobacco put half the nation's children — more than 35

million of them — at greater risk of substance abuse and of physical and mental illnesses, according to a 81-page white paper, *Family Matters: Substance Abuse and the American Family*, released by The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) at Columbia University.

Key findings include:

- 13 percent of children under 18 live in a household where a parent or other adult uses illicit drugs.
- 24 percent of children live in a household where a parent or other adult is a binge or heavy drinker.
- 37 percent of children live in a household where a parent or other adult uses tobacco.

To download a free copy of this paper from CASA's website, go to:

www.casacolumbia.org/Absolutenm/articlefiles/380-family_matters_report.pdf

Co-Occurring Center for Excellence Overview Papers Available

SAMHSA's Co-Occurring Center for Excellence (COCE) is pleased to announce the release of two Overview Papers: "Definitions and Terms Relevant to Co-Occurring Disorders (COD)" and "Screening, Assessment, and Treatment Planning for Persons with COD," now available on the COCE Web site at: www.coce.samhsa.gov/cod_resources/papers.htm

These are the first in a series of 16 papers designed to offer concise and easy-to-read introductions to state-of-the-art knowledge in COD. The papers build on existing research and consensus documents and synthesize available knowledge for a broad audience of stakeholders interested in responding effectively to the needs of people with co-occurring disorders. They are intended to guide COCE technical assistance and training efforts.

For other recent updates to the COCE web site, see "What's New" at:

www.coce.samhsa.gov/news.htm

SELECTED UPCOMING EVENTS

Fifth Annual New England School of Prevention Studies July 25-28

This four-day event, to be held at Roger Williams University in Bristol, RI, is designed for prevention professionals working in various settings. The school features keynote addresses and a variety of intensive courses to choose from, delivered by nationally and regionally recognized speakers. Courses address a variety of current and emerging issues related to evidence-based prevention programming. This event is sponsored by the New England and New York state substance abuse agencies, CSAP's Northeast CAPT, and several other organizations.

For more information, please contact:
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75 Stone Street, Augusta, ME 05330
FAX: 207-621-2550
PHONE: 207-621-2549
TTY: 207-623-0830
E-MAIL: neias@neias.org

Upcoming Online Courses

Effective Strategies: Building Blocks of Prevention
August 8–19

This course is designed help practitioners incorporate evidence-based strategies into their prevention efforts. It combines readings, online activities, and moderated discussion. Course materials include written and videotaped case studies, 24 related resources and tools, and links to related Web sites.

Data Collection Methods: Getting Down to Basics
September 12–23

The course is designed to help practitioners identify and collect the data that will enable them to design, implement, and evaluate effective prevention activities. It combines readings, online activities, and moderated discussion. Course materials include planning tools, an annotated bibliography of evaluation guides and courses, and links to related Web sites. This is the second of three online courses that address issues related to evaluation.

Both of these online courses are asynchronous events, which means that the participants can take the courses

*at their own pace and log in at their convenience.
However, to benefit most from the materials and online discussion, we encourage participants to adhere to a recommended schedule.*

For more information on these online events, please contact Melanie Adler at madler@edc.org or 617-618-2309. To receive information on course registration, please click on:
http://www.northeastcapt.org/course_registration/register_mailing_list.asp

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